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on

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 015389-002600US

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By _____

11c 11/30/98
T. Gray

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)

Thomas Cech et al.)

Examiner: Toni Scheiner

Application No.: 08/912,951)

Art Unit: 1642

Filed: August 14, 1997)

For: HUMAN TELOMERASE)
CATALYTIC SUBUNIT:)
DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC)
METHODS)

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Examiner's Action mailed September 29, 1998, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-referenced application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 24-35 and 82 without prejudice to prosecution in future, copending, or divisional applications.

Please amend the claims as follows:

C'
59. (Amended) The cell of claim 56, wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes an 1132-residue [protein] hTERT protein having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

C²
71. (Amended) The cell of claim 70, that comprises a non-naturally occurring hTERT gene, wherein said gene is not found in the naturally occurring cell of the same type.